[redacted]

Leather

M - Mr. William B. Macomber, Jr. September 23, 1960

VIA : TAS - Mr. Robert B. Elsing

EAC - Richard E. Gatewood

Comparative Statistics Concerning Bloc and U.S. Defectors

As you requested this morning, the following figures indicate the number of defections from the Bloc to Western countries within the last eighteen months, together with comparable statistics for American defectors to the USSR:

	From April 1, 1959 To Sept. 25, 1960
Bloc defections to the U.S.	64
Bloc defections to other Western countries	12
Total	76
American defectors to Bloc countries	16 (est.) *

The number of U.S. defectors includes Burnam and Mitchell but not two Americans one of which has re-defected and the other is applying for return to the U.S.

CIA requests that these statistics not be published or given to congressional inquirers until after the agency has been informed of the source of any inquiries and has agreed to the release of the figures.

For your information, there is attached an excerpt from the relevant NSC paper defining defectors and escapees.

Attachment: 9/24

As stated.

* At Macomber's request, I asked Otepka (S/) to refine this figure & he will consult the FBI.

EAG:REGatewood:dm

cc: TAS - Mr. Elsing w/a

REB - Mr. Crawford w/a [redacted]

CD 2945